Performance Metrics

The mission of the Bureau of Finance and Management (BFM) includes advising the Governor on overall fiscal policy; completing and presenting the annual fiscal plan; promoting the efficient and effective management of the state of South Dakota; preparing the state’s annual financial report; and, managing the central accounting and payroll systems for the state.

Goal: Issue the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) within six months of fiscal year completion.

- Federal regulations require issuance within nine months (green line).
- Governor's goal is to complete it in six months. BFM set target dates to reach this six month goal (black line).
- Target dates met since FY2013.
- Six month goal met in FY2016 and FY2017 (blue line).

Goal: Maintain best public issuer credit ratings possible.

- South Dakota has had the best possible ratings from Standard & Poor's, Moody's, and Fitch since 2016.
- Only twelve states hold the highest rating across all three rating agencies. (PEW Charitable Trusts)
- Upgrades typically allow issued bonds to carry a lower interest rate, providing interest savings to issuers that translate through to the state of South Dakota.

Goal: Maintain budget reserve at 10% of general fund spending.

- $159.5M in reserves (budget reserve fund and general fund replacement fund) as of today.
- BFM policy is to maintain a combined balance equal to 10% of general fund spending (black line).
- The reserve balance has been above 10% since FY2012 (blue line).
Goal: Implement internal controls for all state agencies.

- BFM led a workgroup to create tools to ensure agencies are in compliance with the federal government’s Uniform Grant Guidance.
- The State Board of Internal Controls is meeting to establish and maintain guidelines for a system of internal controls.
- BFM is leading a project to create an Internal Control Framework that will be applicable statewide.
- The framework will be implemented within BFM first, and then implemented in other state agencies.

Goal: Maintain a structurally balanced budget.

- South Dakota is committed to fiscal responsibility and conservative management principles. We use ongoing money for ongoing expenses.
- The ongoing expenses include appropriations in the General Appropriations Act, as well as continuous appropriations.
- The Governor has recommended a budget with ongoing receipts (black bar) equal to or greater than ongoing expenses (blue bar) in each of the past eight years.

Goal: Improve government transparency.

- Continually seek ways to make more government financial information accessible to the public by implementing new functionality on the state’s website. Open SD provides access to state government spending, state employees’ salaries, financial publications and reports, the state’s checkbook, contracts, grants, budget, tax expenditures, and a variety of other financial information.
- Each year, BFM produces three public documents to strengthen the financial practices of the state: Long-Term Financial Plan, Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan, and Debt Limitation and Management Policy.
- Financial Metrics and Dashboards can be found on BFM’s website. Included are: updated snapshots of budget and actual expenditures compared to projected expenditures, the state's general fund receipts and comparison with the most recent forecasts, and the balance of the cash flow account and trust funds.
- This March, BFM released a new financial publication called the Citizen's Financial Report. It is intended to be a clear and understandable summary of several other large and complex documents, including the Budget Report, CAFR, Long Term Financial Plan, and Economic Updates.